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REMARKS

ON TWO

Popular Pamphlets.

VIZ,

The Considerations on the present German War ;

AND THE

Full and Candid Answer to the Considerations.

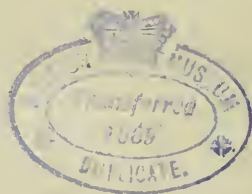
O BRITAIN ! chosen Port of Trade,
May Lux'ry ne'er thy Sons invade :
What is't who rules in other Lands ?
On Trade alone thy Glory stands.

Be Commerce then thy sole Design,
Keep that, and all the World is thine.

GAY.

L O N D O N : .

Printed in the Year 1760.



Advertisement.

A Pamphlet having lately made its appearance in public, under the title of CONSIDERATIONS ON THE PRESENT GERMAN WAR, which, though written in a gentleman-like manner, is, nevertheless, flagitious in its design, and one of the greatest affronts that can be offered to our present happy Government, whose judgment is warmly attacked in making a treaty of alliance with a German Prince ; the sole end of which, according to this writer, can be no other than the ruin of these Kingdoms ; and that every advantage gained by our Ally is prejudicial

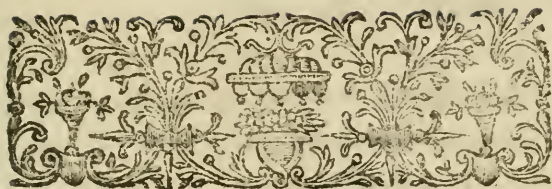
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cial to our interest, as they only protract the war, &c.

And *whereas*, to these Considerations an answer has also been published, called A FULL AND CANDID ANSWER TO A PAMPHLET, Entitled, CONSIDERATIONS ON THE PRESENT GERMAN WAR; But in this the author of the following pages, apprehends the words *Full and Candid* to be misapplied; he thinks that if they were substituted by the words *Temporary and Abusive*, the title would, with greater propriety, suit the book; he thinks also that he has made some observations on them both, which may possibly be of some service to the Public, in preventing their over-hasty siding with either of these writers.

O B S E R -



OBSERVATIONS

ON TWO

Popular Pamphlets.

WHEN a writer inlists himself under the banners of a pernicious faction, and, from a sourness of disposition and discontent at heart, presumes to traduce the conduct of an opposite party, which has ever been allowed to be virtuous and patriotic, in order to breed and foment division and disquiet among a people who are rendered unanimous by success and victory, ought

ought he not to be considered as an enemy to the commonwealth, and his writings thrown aside with contempt ?

But there is now-a-days a way of thrusting a book into a multitude of hands by artifice, and this is the part which the book-feller takes upon him to act. He boldly asserts that the piece was written by my lord E——— ; the weak believe him, and propagate the lie.

By this means he is sure to make a quick sale of the impression, as it is very well known, that my lord E——— is a man of very great parts, and can handle such a subject extremely well ; — besides, he has made many fine speeches in the Senate-House.

Now as it is necessary to undeceive the public, and to inform them that the author of the *Considerations on the present German War*, is NOT lord E———t, nor lord B———h, nor any other nobleman or any
member

member of the Lower House ; we may, with the strictest propriety, say, that there cannot be a greater affront offered to either or both these noblemen, than supposing them the authors of those *Considerations*, a piece which is replete with malignancy, and is most evidently calculated to spread abroad discontent, and create a division among the people.

It is not consistent with the known character of these noblemen to speak in such a manner, since it is very well known they are not of any party whose principles and existence are prejudicial to the nation, as it is apparent the author of the *Considerations on the present German War* must be ; for there is scarce a page in that work but what contains some direct or implied sarcasm against the government ; and he has proceeded a considerable way in demonstrating the nation to be on the brink of bankruptcy and beggary, and that those who are at the helm are steering full into the gulph of destruction.

Such

Such invectives and observations could never fall from the pen of lord E———t, or lord B———h; this every person of common candour and honesty, who has heard but very little of those noblemen will readily allow.

Having, it is presumed, put it entirely out of all suspicion, that the *Considerations on the present German War* are NOT the productions of the supposed noble authors, it is necessary to expose to public view the portrait of the REAL author.

Let us first suppose that great part of this piece was written at Uxbridge last summer, and that the matten lamp has been early lighted many mornings this winter in Fenchurch-Street in London; — nay, let us suppose also that this piece of pretended patriotism and philanthropy was almost wholly penned while we were sleeping sound in our beds, and that the *reverend* author has wasted his constitution over his midnight and matten lamps, in employing his thoughts
and

and exercising his talents on what he would fain have us think is for the good of his country, and the exposing of those destructive measures it is pursuing. I say, after supposing all this, it is hardly possible to mistake him, or of observing that he might better, nay with greater justice have employed his time, thoughts, and talents, in the function of his *professed* office ; such as the administering the safety of souls to his *dissenting* congregation *.

The whole of this inflammatory and sophistical piece is written with great premeditation and caution : in every page the author has laboured to avoid incurring the censure of being thought to be in a passion at the time he wrote it ; this superficial colouring has great weight upon a weak mind ; an eye of common discernment will hardly discover what has excited his choler ;

* The author of these pages has been lately informed, that the *Reverend* writer of the *Considerations on the present German War*, has declined wearing the gown.

he

he so artfully conceals his animosity, envy, and prejudice, under the impenetrable shield of dissimulation, and always with a grave and important consideration, adds weight to his argument, that the reader may adopt his sentiments as it were by infatuation.

The specious gloss is given by way of whet to the reader, in order to prepare him on every occasion for such a representation of facts, and lead him infatuated, or rather intoxicated, from page to page, till he adopts the writer's opinion, and becomes hardened in the cause.

But with all this fallacy it is not very difficult to discover that this author has worked himself to the highest pitch of indignation, merely by supposing that a Germanic war is destructive of the true interests of these kingdoms; and, though his ill-nature and malignancy are hid under the pretended cloaks of candour and casuistry, they are nevertheless visible.

It is true that there are many thousands of sensible men who are no friends to our connexions with a German war, but an avowed enemy to them in the extreme to which they are now carried.

These men are not dazzled with the abilities of the Prussian monarch, or those of duke Ferdinand, or the enthusiastic encomiums bestowed on them ; they can see the lives of their brave countrymen too prodigally lavished away, and millions sent over to support a distant cause. Yet these very men are not for excluding Hanover from its natural connexion with the British monarchy, nor for deserting an ally with whom they have entered into the most solemn engagements.

They can easily see, that to break off with the latter, and make a separate peace, will not only hurt our present honour, and sully all our victories, but ruin our future credit

among our neighbours ; inasmuch as no nation will hereafter depend on our fulfilling any engagements we may offer to enter into : And shall a nation, so renowned for its honour and good faith among nations, basely and wilfully desert a cause it voluntarily adopted, and the vows it voluntarily plighted ?

No friend to his country will ever desire it, for if he be a friend, he will give his opinion, *By all means let us preserve our honour ; or, in other words, keep our promises.*

They were voluntarily given by the people ; because no British monarch can enter into any foreign measures without first obtaining the consent of his Parliament, the upright and honourable members of which have always considered, that since the signing of the peace at Utrecht in 1713, this nation has had a natural connexion with Hanover, and that the entering into any continental
mea-

measures for its safety, was extending the glory of the nation beyond what had been done before ; and that, to defend and support a House to which we owe a succession of THREE of the best monarchs who ever ruled the land, was not only a compliment paid to their sovereign, but an incontestable proof of their loyalty and attachment to him and his family : And this was really the case at the time of signing the present treaty with Prussia.

It was but natural for the king to have an affection for his native country, and the good subjects made large allowances for this defect in our natures ; they acquiesced with the views of the crown, nor could they imagine them prejudicial to themselves under so good a king : They did not, in all probability, foresee that the war in Germany would be so bloody and expensive as it has unfortunately proved : They thought the king of Prussia would in a short time

crush the House of Austria, and thereby deter the rest of his enemies from marching against him. But one unlucky defeat* destroyed this flattering hope, and brought upon him in an instant all the forces of the confederated powers.

However England, firm to its honour, did not desert its ally, nor neglect giving assistance to Hanover, which was exposed to the ravages of a merciless invader, and hitherto it has preserved the same good faith; nor is there any reason to doubt of its continuing the same to the signing of a general peace; after which time it may be expected some variation will be made in a system which may be defended and carried to an extreme not consistent with our interest.

* At Collen, where he was defeated by Marshal Daun, on the 18th of June, 1757.

It is an observation worthy of every Englishman that Great Britain, by going singly to war with France, would be at less expence, and have (with the protection of the omnipotent Being) greater success.

This is fairly deducible; because in all the alliances which Great Britain has made on the continent, in confederate wars against France, she has reaped permanent benefit; where then is the use of throwing away millions sterling, her brave troops by thousands, and sinking the crown in debt, beyond the supposed credit of the nation?

However unsuccessful the military power of France has been, however low her finances are, she will, in time to come, draw greater advantages from the present Germanic war, than we who maintain the armies; an internal war in the bowels of the empire is entirely for her interest.

The

The Imperialists (under which denomination I include all the Germans together) while they are employed in cutting each others throats, are in the most effectual manner doing the work of France.

France is an ambitious power ; she is stronger at land than any power in Europe. She has for a long time made large steps towards universal monarchy ; her forces in the field are too numerous for any one power to cope with, and her treaties are never to be relied on : for, if it will answer her own interest, she will make no hesitation to break them the next day after they are signed.

The alliance of the Houses of Bourbon and Austria, is not for the interest of either, because they are rival powers. The ruling passion of both is ambition, and if either had the whole of Europe, it would not satisfy their hunger.

But

But all this is nothing to England, since neither of them will ever think of making a conquest of this island, while we preserve our maritime strength.

Let Germany and the rest of the continental powers be governed by their own laws, and England by her own likewise, was *once* the maxim of our present worthy patriot; but, when he found the whole kingdom daily offering incense to the king of Prussia, and saw Hanover in imminent danger, touched with the concern his royal master seemed to have for his electorate, and willing to please the people, he consented to involve England in a continental war; which, for the truth's sake, it must be said, is a pernicious system, in which we exhaust our blood and treasure, waste our revenues, load our backs with the most heavy impositions, and incur an enormous debt.

In

In the present case, however, what can must be done; our present honour and future credit depend on our ending the war as we began it : Like men of honour, and a nation which values its good name and faith as the sacred laws of heaven.

It is absolutely necessary, that our efforts should be as powerful as possible, in order to pave the way for concluding a lasting peace ; and, after that time, it would redound greatly to the honour of Englishmen, who have experienced this folly by purchase, if they would be very cautious how they involve themselves in foreign disputes, which are not to their interest. Every hungry and deceitful German prince, in a time of war, expects to be fed with the good things from England.

It is considerably more for the interest of Germany, that England should be an auxiliary,

liary, than a principal, in any of the wars of the empire, because then she cannot presume to talk so formidably of her own interest, though British blood and British money are the principal supporters of the cause, while the other confederate powers muster their armies in a very cheap manner, and furnish their contingencies upon paper; but after the war has been carried on at the expence of England for a succession of campaigns, and the moment she begins to talk of her own interest, they bring in their democratic forces, such as *the public faith, the liberties of Europe, prior engagements, national honour*, and a thousand more auxiliaries; and, as a principal, England can never enter into any Germanic war.

It is a reasonable question which may be put to every English man, whether Great Britain has reaped one single advantage from all the blood and treasure she has lavished away on the continent

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since

the grand confederacy formed by William the third, down to the conclusion of the reign of George the Second? Have not we incurred a most enormous debt by supporting continental measures! Has not Germany been the burying ground of above half a million of our brave countrymen at different times? And if it could be said that we have gained and kept any advantage from those wars we have supported in that country, would not that money and those men have procured greater advantage, had it been expended, and they fighting for England **ALONE**,

As for Hanover, which we have hitherto been obliged to protect and relieve, out of a sincere respect to a beloved king, now we have a monarch who *glories in the name of Briton*, it is not to be doubted that less regard, and much less affection will be bestowed on that electorate; perhaps it may be disposed of to the king of Denmark;

Such

Such a bargain has more than once been lately spoken of, and the profits arising from the sale might with great propriety be given towards discharging the national debt. This is a matter which may fall under a more serious consideration when the present war is ended.

The *full and candid answer*, as it is called to the *Considerations on the present German war*, is evidently calculated for a catch-penny, and most apparently got up in a great hurry, with much confusion, and very little attention; it is the job of a bookseller, and ought to be treated with more contempt than the iniquitous design of the other. Booksellers, indeed, may be the encouragers of literature, but they ought not to be the encouragers of faction.

It is a question of great importance, and therefore much canvassed at this time, how far it is the interest of Great Britain to en-

gage in a war upon the continent? This is a question of a very perplexed nature, and therefore it is no wonder people are so divided in their sentiments about it. In the first place, there is no doubt, that if we could preserve the same superiority over our enemies at land, as we do at sea, we should much sooner reduce them than we do at present.

The great men of the last age made their chief efforts against the French by land, and the same politics was, in a great measure, pursued the last war. Whence it is that the nation is changed? The reason is plainly this, that experience hath fully convinced all persons either of the impossibility of collecting a sufficient force to attack the French upon their frontiers, or that the expence of it is so immense, that an attempt of that kind would be far beyond our faculties. Thus far we seem to be all agreed.

But

But still it is said “ That we ought
 “ not to turn off all connection with the
 “ continent ; and through we are unable
 “ to bring armies into Flanders sufficient
 “ to oppose the French we may however
 “ do *something* ; we may check their
 “ progress *a little*. A well judged sub-
 “ sidy or an assistance of men may make
 “ a diversion, and answer a very good
 “ purpose”.

Now as it is evident that there is very little danger of the French becoming absolute masters of the continent, *weak efforts* towards checking their encreasing power are worse than doing nothing ; because in order to give a *small check* to our enemies, we take a burden far beyond our strength, and to prevent a distant, bring an immediate ruin upon ourselves.

The

The experience of the last war is an abundant proof of this, when the feeble opposition we made to the French in Flanders cost us so dear that our ministers themselves confessed there was a necessity of making peace, it being almost impossible to raise the supplies another year. In the present war we are still acting upon the same plan, viz. making *weak efforts*, which can serve very little purpose except to exhaust ourselves;

Were it possible to unite the two powers Prussia and Austria, and bring their joint numerous armies to attack the French upon their frontiers, such an alliance would be to the purpose, and there is no sensible Englishman that would not think his money well laid out to procure it, but when we take Austria alone or Prussia alone, the immediate consequence of this is to throw the other into the arms of France, which at once turns the scale against us, and instead
of

of a useful friend, leaves us only a needful ally.

Therefore the only right policy for England is to leave the continent to itself and save her money in order to make her greatest efforts at sea. And necessity will in a little time unite us all in this opinion ; but it probably will not be till after we have squandered away more millions in *weak efforts*.

A gentleman, now in an eminent employment under the government, declared in the House of Commons, soon after the breaking out of the present war, that a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, with the produce of the sinking fund, when the reduction of interest was complete, was sufficient without any other tax, to carry on a naval war.

Could

Could we act on this plan, viz. live within our income, and pursue our enemies only at sea, there is no doubt but we should soon reduce them to our terms.

Compare England, before the accession of the great Elizabeth and her councils, to the figure it made in her auspicious reign, and a little attention will convince us that neither our situation, riches, nor strength, are sufficient to set us above the power of our enemies, and to make us a flourishing people, except our national councils strictly adhere to our national interest, which is to have no connexion with the affairs of the continent, that shall disable or divert us from those measures which are absolutely necessary for our defence, or may lead us into such measures as shall expose our trade and dominions to depredation and invasion, while we are consuming our blood and treasure in the pursuit of fruitless victories and conquests on the continent.

How

How were the people plundered and the kingdom depopulated, to gratify the ambition of the Edwards and Henries in the conquests of France? — How did their continual wars sweep off the hands that should have cultivated our lands, and improved our manufactures?

Our trade, commerce, and navigation, advanced very slowly and England was subject to many revolutions when the intention of the government was fixed upon continental acquisitions.

But the wise Elizabeth content with her empire, maintained peace at home and commanded respect abroad by adopting such measures, and following such councils as engaged her in no quarrels and broils on the continent any farther than were consistent with the constitution of her dominions.

By

By this her majesty could open the purses of her subjects who placed an entire confidence in her wisdom and the integrity of her councils ; countermined the conspiracies and machinations which the Pope and Philip the Second fomented in her dominions, overthrew the terrible armament of the invincible Armada : invaded the chief sea-ports, and interrupted the commerce of Spain ; enabled the Netherlands to shake off the Spanish yoke, and laid the foundation of our present empire in America : exalted the glory of the British flag, and established the manufactories and commerce which under all wise and faithful administrations, have encreased and given us the advantage, which could never be obtained by extensive armies employed in continental service :

The attention of her ministry being entirely taken up in measures for the public welfare, they never hearkened to any over-
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tures or petitions of foreign states, without an immediate advantage to be gained by England.

If our army, our navy, our riches be ever so great, and our councils deviate from the *real* object of our country's interest, if they direct a land war to seek the French in Germany, if they send more men, or give more money, than is consistent with the safeguard of our country, and abilities of the people, the greatness of our fleets and armies, and the vast sums raised upon the public, must in the end destroy the people that **GIVE WITHOUT MEASURE, and FIGHT WITHOUT INTEREST.**

F I N I S.

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